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NOV 2 8 2006

REMARKS

Claims 1-5, 7-11 and 29-38 are pending. Claims 6 and 12-28 were previously canceled.

Claims 1, 29, and 36 have been amended herein. No new material has been added.

Claims 1-5, 29-33, and 35-38 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Lee et al. (hereinafter "Lee" US. Patent No. 6,806,528).

Applicants' Claim 1 has been amended to recite "an electrode superjacent to the phase change material layer, wherein the portion of the electrode superjacent the phase change material layer is also in contact with the phase change material layer." Lee does not disclose this element of Applicants' Claim 1. Rather, Lee discusses a connection to the phase change material layer that is not immediately superjacent the phase change material layer, but is connected to a bit line, which, eventually after being connected through a dielectric layer, runs superjacent the phase change material layer. Because Lee does not disclose this element, Lee cannot anticipate Applicants' Claim 1, and Applicants respectfully request the withdrawal of this rejection.

Claims 2-5, 7, and 8 depend from and further limit independent Claim 1 in a patentable sense. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the rejections of Claims 2-5, 7, and 8 be withdrawn as well.

Applicants' Claim 29 has been amended to recite "the electrode extending away from the phase change material layer in a direction generally perpendicular to a major surface of the substrate." Lee does not disclose an electrode extending away from the phase change material layer in a direction generally perpendicular to the plane of the substrate. Rather, Lee discusses an electrode that extends away from the substrate in a direction generally parallel to the plane of the substrate. Accordingly, because Lee does not contain this element, Lee cannot anticipate

Applicants' Claim 29, and Applicants respectfully request that the rejection of Applicants' Claim 29 be withdrawn.

Claims 30-35 depend from and further limit independent Claim 29 in a patentable sense.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the rejections of Claims 30-35 be withdrawn as well.

Applicants' Claim 36 has been amended to recite "an electrode immediately adjacent the phase change material layer and extending away from the phase change material layer in a plane substantially perpendicular to a longitudinal axis of the elongated thin conductive film." Lee does not disclose an electrode that extends away from the phase change material layer in a plane substantially perpendicular to a longitudinal axis of the elongated thin conductive film." Rather Lee discusses an electrode that extends away from the phase change material layer in a plane that is substantially parallel to the longitudinal axis of the elongated thin conductive film. Because Lee does not disclose this element, Lee cannot anticipate Applicants' Claim 36 and Applicants respectfully request that the rejection of Applicants' Claim 36 be withdrawn.

Claims 37-38 depend from and further limit independent Claim 36 in a patentable sense.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the rejections of Claims 37-38 be withdrawn as well.

In view of the above, Applicants respectfully submit that the application is in condition for allowance and request that the Examiner pass the case to issuance. If the Examiner should have any questions, Applicants request that the Examiner contact Applicants' agent at the address below. No fee is believed due in connection with this filing. However, in the event that there are any fees due, please charge the same, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 50-1065.

Respectfully submitted,

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November 28, 2006

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